



U.S. Department of Justice
United States Attorney
District of Kansas

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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TOPEKA, KANSAS, MAN SENTENCED ON CRACK COCAINE CHARGES

TOPEKA, Kan. – United States Attorney Eric Melgren announced that **Rodney D. Thomas, 36, Topeka, Kansas, was sentenced today by U.S. District Judge Richard D. Rogers to 100 months in federal prison, without parole, to be followed by four years of supervised release.**

Melgren said that Thomas entered a guilty plea on October 8, 2002, to one count of possession with the intent to distribute approximately 14 grams (approximately .49 ounce) of crack cocaine.

Melgren stated that on May 6, 2002, Shawnee County Sheriff's deputies executed a search warrant at a residence in Topeka, Kansas, where Thomas was living and found approximately 14 grams of crack cocaine, individually packaged for sale, in a pair of Thomas' jeans, along with \$1,700 in cash. Thomas admitted that he intended to sell the crack cocaine.

Melgren commended the excellent work of the Shawnee County Sheriff's Department, the KBI, and the Drug Enforcement Administration in this investigation and Assistant U.S. Attorney James Brown in this prosecution.